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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/563,405

01/04/2006

Artur Schworer

3450

4557

7590

12/15/2008

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EXAMINER

SAFAVI, MICHAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3637

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/563,405	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SCHWORER, ARTUR	
	<b>Examiner</b> Michael Safavi	<b>Art Unit</b> 3637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 September 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11,13,14,16 and 18-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11,13,14,16 and 18-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/13/08</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on September 18, 2008 has been entered.

### ***Specification***

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because in line 9 on page 12 “first claw” should be -second claw- or “22” should be -21-. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

### ***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the “wedge...[having] a cross-section tapering along the wedge guiding direction”, (claim 18), must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure

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is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 16, line 2, "each turnbuckle device" lacks antecedent basis within the claim. It is therefore, not clear as to what "each turnbuckle device" refers.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**Claims 20, 11, 16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by European Patent Application 0552621 (EP '621). EP '621**

discloses, Figs. 1 and 2, concrete shell elements 16, 17; at least one device 2/3 for clamping the concrete shell elements to one another, the devices having spaced apart opposing claws 14, 15 displaceable toward one another in a clamping direction, the claws being configured for guiding one another for enabling the displacement toward one another; teeth, (col. 2, line 30), disposed on one of the claws, said teeth being slanted at an angle with respect to the clamping direction; a wedge 9 disposed through claw openings 11, (beginning and ending), for causing displacement of the claws upon movement of the wedge within the openings in a wedge guiding direction said guiding direction being at an angle with respect to said clamping direction, (Fig. 2 and col. 2, lines 37-39); grooves disposed in said wedge, (col. 2, lines 30-32), for engaging said teeth for causing the displacement of the claws upon movement of the wedge with the openings. Wedge 9 can be seen as tapered, as from 10 to 9, or can be seen as constant cross-section, as along 9.

**Claims 20, 16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by German Offenlegungsschrift DE 0552621 (DE '273).** DE '273 discloses, Figs. 1, 2 and 4 for example, concrete shell elements 1, 1; at least one device 11 for clamping the concrete shell elements to one another, the devices having spaced apart opposing claws 12, 13 displaceable toward one another in a clamping direction, the claws being configured for guiding one another for enabling the displacement toward one another; teeth 24 disposed on one of the claws, said teeth being slanted at an angle with respect to the clamping direction; a wedge 34 disposed through claw openings 30 for causing displacement of the claws upon movement of the wedge within the openings in a wedge guiding direction said guiding direction being at an angle with respect to said clamping direction; grooves 35 disposed in said wedge for engaging said teeth for causing the displacement of the claws upon movement of the wedge with the openings. Wedge 34 can be seen as tapered, as from either end to a central portion thereof, or can be seen as constant cross-section, as along central portion thereof.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over European Patent Application 0552621 (EP '621).**

Examiner believes that EP '621 has "a plurality of the devices" or "multiple mounting positions...the mounting positions being spaced apart from one another and aligned on a straight line". However, to have provided the concrete form of EP '621 with any number of a plurality of "devices" along a pair of adjacent forms 16, 17, thus accounting for any given height of form that may be utilized at the time, would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

**Claims 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over European Patent Application 0552621 (EP '621).**

Examiner believes that DE '273 has "a plurality of the devices" or "multiple mounting positions...the mounting positions being spaced apart from one another and aligned on a straight line". However, to have provided the concrete form of DE '273 with any number of a plurality of "devices" along a pair of adjacent forms 1, 1, thus accounting for any given height of form that may be utilized at the time, would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

**Claims 13, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over European Patent Application 0552621 (EP '621).**

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Forming the EP '621 wedge 9 at an angle of between 40 degrees and 85 degrees including at approximately 45 degrees with the clamping direction of the claws, thus allowing easier access to the EP '621 wedge device, would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. See Fig. 3 of EP '621 for example.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Safavi whose telephone number is (571) 272-7046. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on (571) 272-6867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

/Michael Safavi/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3637

M. Safavi  
December 02, 2008